



Attorney Docket No.: A9658-69925
U.S. Patent Application No.: 09/639,441

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Okuniewicz, Douglas M.
Art Unit: 3713
Examiner: Binh-An D. Nguyen
Serial No.: 09/639,441
Filed: August 15, 2000
Title: PRINTING AND DISPENSING BONUSING SYSTEM FOR
GAMING DEVICES
Docket No.: A9658-69925

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APPELLANT'S BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.192

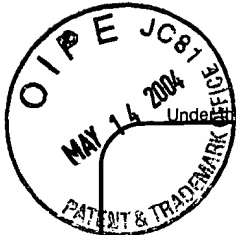
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Pursuant to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.192, please consider the following document as the Appellant's Brief in the referenced application currently before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

05/17/2004 AWONDAF1 00000055 09639441

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Application Number	09/639,441	
	Filing Date	08/15/2000
	First Named Inventor	Douglas M. Okuniewicz
	Art Unit	3713
	Examiner Name	Nguyen, Binh-An Duc
Attorney Docket Number	A9658-69925	
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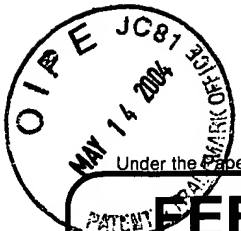
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☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 165.00

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/639,441
Filing Date	08/15/2000
First Named Inventor	Douglas M. Okuniewicz
Examiner Name	Nguyen, Binh-An Duc
Art Unit	3713
Attorney Docket No.	A9658-69925

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1002 340	2002 170	Design filing fee	
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2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Independent Claims	-20** =	X	
Multiple Dependent	-3** =	X	

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
1202 18	2202 9	Claims in excess of 20
1201 86	2201 43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203 290	2203 145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204 86	2204 43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205 18	2205 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

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1052 50	2052 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053 130	1053 130	Non-English specification	
1812 2,520	1812 2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
1804 920*	1804 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805 1,840*	1805 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251 110	2251 55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252 420	2252 210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253 950	2253 475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254 1,480	2254 740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255 2,010	2255 1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401 330	2401 165	Notice of Appeal	
1402 330	2402 165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	165
1403 290	2403 145	Request for oral hearing	
1451 1,510	1451 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452 110	2452 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453 1,330	2453 665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501 1,330	2501 665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502 480	2502 240	Design issue fee	
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1460 130	1460 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807 50	1807 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806 180	1806 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021 40	8021 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809 770	2809 385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810 770	2810 385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801 770	2801 385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802 900	1802 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify)

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SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) 165.00

SUBMITTED BY

(Complete if applicable)

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Signature		Date	05/10/2004		

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I. Real Party in Interest

The real party in interest is Douglas M. Okuniewicz the inventor and applicant of the referenced application.

II. Related Appeals and Interferences

To the best knowledge of the Appellant and the Appellant's Legal Representative, there are no other appeals or interferences that will directly affect, be affected by, or have a bearing on the decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (hereafter "the Board") in the present appeal.

However, Appellant has requested a Declaration of an Interference between the claims of the present application and U.S. Patent 6,113,098 issued to Adams ("Adams"). In the Final Office Action dated October 9, 2003, the Examiner rejected Applicant's request for a Declaration of an Interference. However, MPEP §2306 states that "[a]n interference may be declared between an application and a patent if ... at least one of the applicant's claims to that invention are patentable to the applicant." Since the Examiner has issued a Final Office Action against Claims 1-10 of the present application, none of the pending claims are currently considered patentable. Consequently, Applicant requested a withdrawal of the rejection of Applicant's request for a Declaration of an Interference until such a time as a notice of allowance for the claims of this application is issued. At that time, Applicant's request for a Declaration of an Interference can be properly decided in view of the patentable claims.

III. Status of Claims

Claims 1-10 were presented in the application as originally filed. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,816,918 issued to Kelly et al. ("Kelly"). This rejection of claims 1-10 is respectfully appealed to the Board.

IV. Status of Amendments

All amendments submitted to the Examiner during prosecution have been entered in the record. Specifically, claims 1, 2, 4, 9, and 10 were amended in Appellant's Response filed on July 3, 2003. This Response was filed to reply to Examiner's Office Action dated January 1, 2003. The claims of record, as amended, are presented in Appendix A.

V. Summary of the Invention

The invention described in the application relates to a bonusing system for gaming devices. More specifically, the application discloses and claims a printing and/or dispensing bonusing system for electronic gaming devices such as slot machines, video poker machines, etc. Claims 1 - 10 of the present application are directed towards a printing/dispensing bonusing system for electronic gaming devices that includes: a detection means for event occurrences; an event detection sampling means; an event occurrence signal computing means; and a bonus printing/dispensing device. The discussion presented below is not intended to limit the scope of the invention. References to specific embodiments are intended to clarify arguments and simplify explanations.

An electronic activity detector and command generator **200**, as shown in Figure 1, controls the bonusing system apparatus. Game "events" generated or controlled by a circuit board (not shown) that contains game logic include: a jackpot; other payoffs; non-winning combination; or other machine functions. The event signals are in the form of machine outputs **201a-o** that are connected through a machine interface **202** to the electronic activity detector and command generator **200** that contains a Main Computing Unit (microprocessor) **240**.

Application Page 16, Lines 8 – 11.

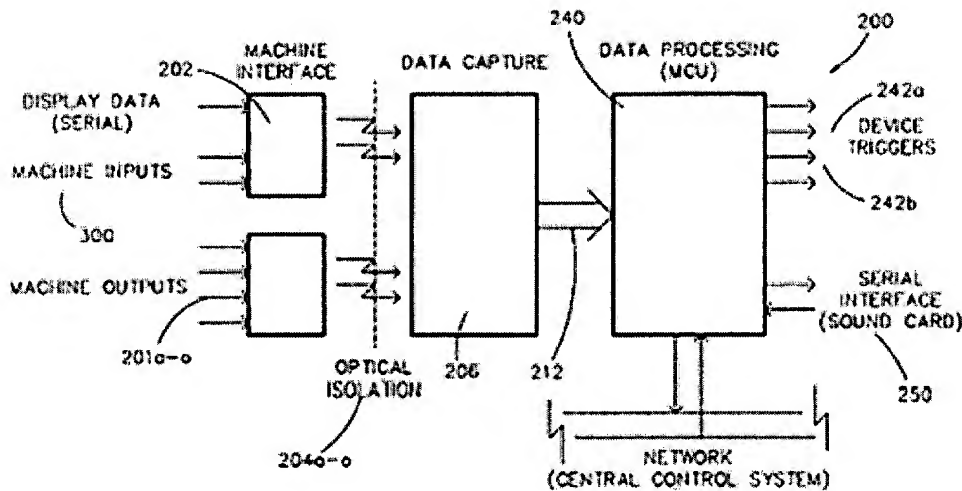


Figure 1

The machine interface 202 detects the game event occurrences in the form of machine outputs 201a-o and transmits event occurrence notification signals to data capture segment 206 of the system. The data capture segment 206 samples the notification signals and passes an event occurrence information signal to the data processing segment (Main Computing Unit or “MCU”) 240. *Application Page 17, Lines 6 – 15.* The MCU 240 analyzes the information signals to identify specific event occurrences. *Application Page 18, Lines 22 – 26.* When specific event occurrences are identified, the MCU 240 generates command signals that are sent by device triggers 242a and 242b to various output devices (not shown). *Application Page 20, Lines 13 – 23.*

In some embodiments, the bonusing system uses event detector devices 204a-o to unobtrusively detect event occurrences. *Application Page 16, Lines 22 – 28.* The event detector devices 204a-o will detect the event occurrence “yet prevent modification of the event status due to the *one-way nature* of the event detector devices.” *Application Page 17, Lines 2-6.* Examples of embodiments of such event detector devices 204a-o include: optical isolators or readers; electromagnetic pulse detectors; or other detectors directly or integrally attached to the gaming device. *Application Page 24, Line 24 – Page 25, Line 6; also Application Page 22, Lines 20-23.* The terms “one-way nature” and

“unobtrusively detect” describe the function of the event detectors for use as a read-only means of detecting an event. Further, each of the other embodiments described in the application are all read-only devices that are only capable of one way communication.

Output devices used by the bonusing system may include a bonus printer, a bonus item dispenser, or other electronic device that provides bonus items or information. *Application Page 22, Line 24 – Page 23, Line 3*. Bonus items may include: coins, cash, bonus vouchers, lottery tickets, “scratch-off” tickets, complimentaries, promotional materials, and other such bonus awards. It is important to note that the bonusing system is separate and independent from the standard payout determining mechanism for the gaming device. Consequently, only selected event occurrences result in a bonus and other event occurrences may not directly influence the bonus system. *Application Page 23, Lines 14 – 28*.

The present invention has the advantage of allowing a player of the gaming device to win bonus prizes based on selected events in addition to and separate from the standard payouts of the gaming device. As a result, the player is more likely to continue playing the gaming device as a result of the bonus prizes. For example, the player may receive bonus coupons despite not hitting a standard coin payout of a slot machine. *Application Page 23, Line 23 – Page 24, Line 11*.

Finally, it should be understood that numerous additions, modifications, and substitutions may be made to the bonusing system. Many such embodiments are described in the application while others are well known to those of ordinary skill in the art. While the invention has been described with respect to a limited number of embodiments, those skilled in the art, having benefit of this disclosure, will appreciate that other embodiments can be devised which do not depart from the scope of the invention as disclosed.

VI. Issues

The first issue presented on Appeal is whether claims 1-10 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No.

5,816,918 issued to Kelly et al. ("Kelly"). *Final Office Action Dated October 9, 2003.*

The second issue presented on Appeal is whether the Examiner's refusal to declare an Interference is premature and should be withdrawn until such time as Applicant's pending claims are patentable.

VII. Grouping of Claims

Claims 1, and 3-10 stand or fall as a group.

Claim 2 is separately patentable. Claim 2 has been rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,816,918 issued to Kelly et al. ("Kelly"). However, the Examiner has admitted that elements of claim 2 are not shown by Kelly. The Examiner asserted that the missing element was well known in the art. *Office Action Dated January 1, 2003, Page 6.* In the subsequent Final Office Action, the Examiner cited additional references that purport to show the missing elements upon Applicant's request. However, no explanation was provided for motivation to combine the newly cited references with Kelly and the §102(e) rejection for anticipation was maintained. *Final Office Action Dated October 9, 2003.*

VIII. Argument

A. 35 U.S.C. §102(e) Rejection of Claims 1-10

With respect to Claim 1, the Examiner has asserted that U.S. Patent No. 5,816,918 issued to Kelly et al. ("Kelly") teaches a printing and dispensing bonusing system for electronic gaming devices comprising: "at least one detection means" (Column 6, Line 64 – Column 7, Line 51); "event detection sampling means" (Column 7, Line 19 – Column 8, Line 30); "event occurrence information signal computing means" (Column 7, Line 52 – Column 9, Line 8); and "at least one bonus printing/dispensing device" (Column 9, Line 9 – Column 10, Line 65). *Final Office Action Dated October 9, 2003, Pages 4-7; also Office Action Dated January 1, 2003, Pages 4-7.*

In response, the Applicant argued that the key distinction between Kelly and the present invention is the nature of the inputs to the gaming device

microprocessor(s). *Applicant's Response to Office Action Dated January 1, 2003, Section (4.)(a.)*. The Examiner maintained his rejection and stated that these arguments are unpersuasive because: (1.) this has not been claimed; and (2.) the signals of the input devices of Kelly would bring the same results as from the gaming system of the present invention. *Final Office Action Dated October 9, 2003, Page 7*.

In the first Office Action, the Examiner cited Kelly as teaching the "at least one detection means adapted for connection to an electronic apparatus, said detection means operative to detect selected event occurrences on an electronic apparatus and output event occurrence notification signals upon detection of an event". The Examiner correctly categorized this detection means as "detecting inputs from player/operator" which is consistent with the disclosure of Kelly. *Final Office Action Dated October 9, 2003, Pages 4; also Office Action Dated January 1, 2003, Page 4*.

Specifically, Kelly teaches that "[i]nput devices 16 are used by a player or user to provide input to the game unit 10 to influence game events during a game process ..." *Kelly 6:64 - 6:66*. Kelly gives examples of such input devices as "buttons, keyboard, dials, joystick, controls, touch screen, track ball, mouse, gun device, steering wheel, foot pedals, speech input through a microphone, or any other input used in playing a game and providing selections." *Kelly 7:6 - 7:9*. Additional examples include "sensors of various types ... employed to detect the paths of playing pieces directed by the player, detect when playing pieces have been dispensed, detect when a game is over, detect cheating actions by the player, etc." *Kelly 7:42 - 7:46*. Kelly summarizes that "[e]ach type of user input can provide a particular game command to the game processor 12, and the game processor interprets the commands and influences game states and game events in the game process accordingly." *Kelly 7:13 - 7:17*. Block diagrams show these features as: Input Devices 16 that feed directly into a Game Processor 12 shown in Figure 1; and input/output that is fed into an I/O device 34 that is connected by a Bus 36 to a Microprocessor 28 shown in Figure 1a.

In contrast, claims 1-10 of the present application claims a detection means that is “adapted for connection to an electronic apparatus”. This electronic apparatus is described as a circuit board that is connected through a machine interface **202** to the electronic activity detector and command generator **200** that contains a Main Computing Unit (microprocessor) **240** as shown in Figure 1. *Application Page 16, Lines 8 – 11.* Figure 1 also shows the input from the circuit board **201a-o** explicitly labeled as “Machine Outputs”. The machine interface **202** may access the information sites *on the circuit board* and allow for the event occurrence data to be transferred to the programmable electronic activity detector and command generator **200** (*emphasis added*).

Machine outputs **201a-o** generated by the circuit board containing the gaming logic are explicitly claimed. The first element of claims 1-10 related to gaming logic is written in the “means-plus-function” format as allowed by 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶6. For example, the first element of claim 1 recites:

at least one detection *means* adapted for connection to an electronic apparatus, said detection means operative to detect selected event occurrences on an electronic apparatus and output event occurrence notification signals upon detection of an event (*emphasis added*).

It is well settled law that, “a claim limitation expressed in the means-plus-function language ‘shall be construed to cover the corresponding structure described in the specification and equivalents thereof’”. *M.P.E.P. §2181, Pages 216-217 of Section 2100; see also, Kemco Sales, Inc. v. Control Papers Co., 54 USPQ2d 1308, 1360 (Fed. Cir. 2000).* Quite simply, a means-plus-function claim limitation shall be defined by what is described in the specification. In this instance, a “detection means adapted for connection to an electronic apparatus...” should be interpreted to mean a machine interface **202** that detects machine outputs **201a-o** generated by the circuit board containing gaming logic. Therefore, claims 1-10 are limited to gaming device signals that *originate from and are controlled by the circuit board containing the gaming logic* of the gaming device.

With the key element of claims 1-10 properly defined, the claims can now be compared to Kelly. The key distinction between Kelly and the present

invention is the nature of the inputs to the gaming device microprocessor(s). Kelly specifically teaches user-controlled inputs that affect the outcome of the game. Due to the user-originated and user-controlled inputs, Kelly will have an entirely different method of generating event outcomes from that of the present invention.

In contrast, the present application explicitly claims a system for electronic gaming devices that receives machine outputs from the circuit board of the gaming device that contains the gaming logic. These outputs are solely and completely controlled/generated by the circuit board containing the gaming logic of the device. The gaming logic on the circuit board completely determines the results of the game without any input from the user. There is absolutely NO input from the user that can determine or affect a gaming device's outcome in any way whatsoever.

Therefore, the claims will be limited to inputs to the game microprocessor that *originate from the circuit board* of the device. In contrast, the Kelly teaches inputs that *originate from the user* and affect the outcome of the game. Due to the input of the users, Kelly will in no way have the same outputs as the present invention. The circuit board completely controls and determines the results of the game without any input from the user. Consequently, since Kelly does not teach or disclose the use of inputs from a gaming device circuit board as claimed by the Applicant, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

B. 35 U.S.C. §102(e) Rejection of Claim 2

Claim 2 is dependent from independent claim 1. Specifically, claim 2 recites:

The printing and dispensing bonusing system for electronic gaming devices of claim 1 wherein said detection means comprises a plurality of optical isolators.

The Examiner has rejected Claim 2 by asserting that the limitation of detection means comprising a plurality of optical sensors is inherently known. *Office Action Dated January 1, 2003, Page 6.*

In response, Applicant cited 37 C.F.R. §1.104(d)(2) that states:

When a rejection in an application is based on facts within the personal knowledge of an employee of the Office, the data shall be as specific as possible, and the reference must be supported, when called for by the applicant, by the affidavit of such employee, and such affidavit shall be subject to contradiction or explanation by the affidavits of the applicant and other persons.

In accordance with this rule, Applicant requested that the Examiner submit an affidavit stating that based on his personal knowledge, it is well known to one of ordinary skill in the art that the use of optical sensors is inherently known for use as a detection means consistent with claim 2. In the alternative, Applicant requested that the Examiner either provide an additional reference showing the use of optical sensors, as claimed, as a detection means in slot machines or withdraw this rejection. *Applicant's Response to Office Action Dated January 1, 2003, Section (4.)(b.).*

In his response, the Examiner has submitted a list of six references that relate to the utilization of optical sensors. These references were provided with no description of the teachings or any explanation of the nature of the rejection. They were merely listed by the Examiner. *Final Office Action Dated October 9, 2003, Page 7.*

If the Examiner wishes to rely on these additional references to reject claim 2, a rejection based on anticipation as described in both office actions is improper since it would rely on a combination of more than one cited reference. *35 U.S.C. §102(e)*. Furthermore, "a second or any subsequent action on the merits in any application ... will not be made final if it includes a rejection on newly cited art". *M.P.E.P §706.07(a), ¶2.*

Consequently, Applicant respectfully requests a withdrawal of the Final Office Action and an issuance of a Non-Final Office Action that explains the grounds for this rejection if it is to be maintained. Additionally, since claim 2 contains an optical sensors element that is narrower in scope than the corresponding element of claim 1, claim 2 is allowable for at least the same reasons as previously discussed in Section VIII.A.

C. Refusal of a Request to Declare an Interference

Appellant requested a Declaration of an Interference between the pending Claims 1-10 of the present Application and Claims 1-6, 8-10, 13, 14, 17-22, 24-27, 29, and 32-34 of U.S. Patent 6,113,098 (“Adams”). *Applicant’s Response to Office Action Dated January 1, 2003 and Request for a Declaration of an Interference*. The Examiner rejected Applicant’s request for a Declaration of an Interference. *Final Office Action Dated October 9, 2003, Pages 2-3*.

However, the Patent Examining Rules state that “[a]n interference may be declared between an application and a patent if ... at least one of the applicant’s claims to that invention are patentable to the applicant.” *M.P.E.P.* §2306. Since the Examiner issued a Final Office Action against Claims 1-10 of the present application, none of the pending claims are currently considered patentable.

Consequently, Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejection of Applicant’s Request for a Declaration of an Interference until such a time as a notice of allowance for the claims of this application is issued. At that time, the Request can be properly decided in view of the patentable claims.


IX. Conclusion

The Summary of the Invention provided in Section V., in combination with the arguments presented in Sections VIII(A) and (B) show that the rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,816,918 issued to Kelly et al. is improper. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Board reverse the Examiner’s rejection.

Also, the arguments presented in Section VIII(C) show that the Examiner’s refusal to declare an Interference between pending Claims 1-10 of the present Application and Claims 1-6, 8-10, 13, 14, 17-22, 24-27, 29, and 32-34 of U.S. Patent 6,113,098 (“Adams”) is premature. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Board reverse the Examiner’s refusal until such a time when the Request can be properly decided in view of the patentable claims.

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Respectfully Submitted,



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Date

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X. Appendix

A. Claims of Record in the Present Application

1. (Previously Amended) A printing and dispensing bonusing system for electronic gaming devices, said system comprising:

at least one detection means adapted for connection to an electronic apparatus, said detection means operative to detect selected event occurrences on an electronic apparatus and output event occurrence notification signals upon detection of an event;

event detection sampling means in information transmission connection with said detection means, said event detection sampling means operative to detect and receive event occurrence notification signals from said detection means, analyze said event occurrence notification signals and output event occurrence information signals including information specifying selected event occurrences;

event occurrence information signal computing means in information transmission connection with said event detection sampling means, said event occurrence information signal computing means operative to receive and analyze said selected event occurrence information signals output by said event detection sampling means and upon detection of selected event occurrence notification signals, output command signals for initiating operation of at least one bonus printing/dispensing device connected to a programmable event occurrence information signal computing device; and

said at least one bonus printing/dispensing device independent of a standard output device of the electronic gaming device and operative to accept command signals from said programmable event occurrence information signal

computing device and to print and dispense bonus information and awards resulting from selected events occurring on the electronic gaming device whereby an operator/player of the electronic gaming device is awarded selected bonus information and awards.

2. (Previously Amended) The printing and dispensing bonusing system for electronic gaming devices of claim 1 wherein said detection means comprises a plurality of optical isolators.

3. (Original) The printing and dispensing bonusing system for electronic gaming devices of claim 1 wherein said event detection sampling means comprises at least one input register operative to monitor said detection means such that any event occurrence on said electronic apparatus will be detected and stored for access by said event occurrence information signal computing means.

4. (Previously Amended) The printing and dispensing bonusing system for electronic gaming devices of claim 3 wherein said event detection sampling means is operative to receive and analyze said event occurrence signals output by an electronic apparatus to determine the selected event occurrence that has occurred in an electronic apparatus, said event detection sampling means operative to store said event in data storage registers within said event detection sampling means.

5. (Original) The printing and dispensing bonusing system for electronic gaming devices of claim 4 wherein said event occurrence information signal computing means comprises a programmable microcontroller chip programmed to scan said data storage registers within said event detection sampling means and remove, identify and compare a selected event occurrence notification signal found within a selected data storage register of said event detection sampling means with an event occurrence table encoded into data

storage registers within said event occurrence information signal computing means, said table corresponding to selected event occurrence information signals which in turn correspond to particular event occurrences on an electronic apparatus.

6. (Original) The printing and dispensing bonusing system for electronic gaming devices of claim 5 wherein said event occurrence information signal computing means further is operative to identify a match of an event occurrence information signal and an event occurrence number within said registers of said event occurrence information signal computing means, said event occurrence information signal computing means operative to output one of said command signals related to said event occurrence number to at least one of said connected bonus printing/dispensing device.

7. (Original) The printing and dispensing bonusing system for electronic gaming devices of claim 1 wherein said at least one bonus printing/dispensing device comprises at least one printing device operative to dispense a printed ticket or voucher representative of the selected bonus item.

8. (Original) The printing and dispensing bonusing system for electronic gaming devices of claim 1 wherein said at least one printing/dispensing device comprises at least one dispensing device which is operative to output bonus items selected from the group of coin, cash, scrip, bonus tickets, lottery tickets, scratch off tickets, complimentaries and promotional materials.

9. (Previously Amended) A printing and dispensing bonusing system for electronic gaming devices, said system comprising:

at least one read only detection means adapted for connection to an electronic apparatus, said detection means operative to detect selected event

occurrences on an electronic apparatus and output event occurrence notification signals upon detection of an event;

event detection sampling means in information transmission connection with said read only detection means, said event detection sampling means operative to detect and receive event occurrence notification signals from said read only detection means, analyze said event occurrence notification signals and output event occurrence information signals including information specifying event occurrences;

event occurrence information signal computing means in information transmission connection with said event detection sampling means, said event occurrence information signal computing means operative to receive and analyze said event occurrence information signals output by said event detection sampling means and upon detection of selected event occurrence information signals, output command signals for initiating at least one connected output command signals for initiating at least one connected output device to perform a selected operation corresponding to said command signal; and

said at least one bonus printing/dispensing device independent of a standard output device of the electronic gaming device and operative to accept command signals from said programmable event occurrence information signal computing device and to print and dispense bonus information and awards resulting from selected events occurring on the electronic gaming device whereby an operator/player of the electronic gaming device is awarded selected bonus information and awards.

10. (Previously Amended) A printing and dispensing bonusing system for electronic gaming devices, said system comprising:

at least one detection means for detecting selected event occurrences on an electronic apparatus and outputting event occurrence notification signals upon detection of an event;

event detection sampling means in information transmission connection with said detection means, said event detection sampling means operative to detect and receive event occurrence notification signals from said detection means, analyze said event occurrence notification signals and output event occurrence information signals including information specifying selected event occurrences;

event occurrence information signal computing means in information transmission connection with said event detection sampling means, said event occurrence information signal computing means operative to receive and analyze said event occurrence information signals output by said event detection sampling means and upon detection of selected event occurrence information signals, output command signals for initiating operation of at least one bonus printing/dispensing device connected to a programmable event occurrence information signal computing device; and

said at least one bonus printing/dispensing device independent of a standard output device of the electronic gaming device and operative to accept command signals from said programmable event occurrence information signal computing device and to print and dispensing bonus information and awards resulting from selected events occurring in the electronic gaming device whereby an operator/player of the electronic gaming device is awarded preselected bonus information and awards.